

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please cancel claims 18-20 without prejudice to consideration in a continuing application.

Please add claims 21-30 as follows:

~~10~~
21. (New) The intramedullary nail of claim 1, wherein said one of said fastener receiving areas included in said distal end section has at least two holes extending transverse to the longitudinal axis; said at least two holes each being normal to the longitudinal axis and one another.

~~11~~
22. (New) The intramedullary nail of claim 1, wherein the nail is made from titanium and the nail has a generally cylindrical shape with a diameter of the solid central section of between about 4 and 7 millimeters.

~~12~~
23. (New) The intramedullary nail of claim 1, wherein the central section has a solid cross section with a substantially constant diameter.

~~19~~ ~~13~~
24. (New) The method of claim 10, which further includes providing another hole extending normal to the longitudinal axis of the elongate member and the at least one hole for at least one of the fastener receiving areas.

~~20~~ ~~13~~
25. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the central section has a solid cross section with a substantially constant diameter.

²³
26. (New) A nail for insertion within an intramedullary canal of a long bone, comprising: an elongate member extending along a longitudinal axis and including a proximal end section, a distal end section, and a central section extending between the proximal end section and the distal end section, the central section having a cross section transverse to the longitudinal axis that sections solid material spanning across a central region of the cross section, the proximal end section and the distal end section each including one of a pair of fastener receiving areas, the fastener receiving areas each having a solid cross-sectional dimension greater than a solid cross-sectional dimension of the central section, the fastener receiving areas each including one or more fastener receiving holes extending transverse to the longitudinal axis.

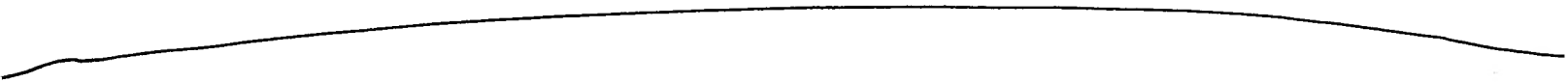
²⁴ ²³
27. (New) The nail of claim 26, wherein at least one of the fastener receiving areas includes two of the holes axially oriented normal to one another and the longitudinal axis.

²⁵ ²³
28. (New) The nail of claim 26, wherein the central section is curved between the fastener receiving areas in a sagittal plane transverse to respective axes of the holes, the elongate member includes a proximal bend that is acutely angled relative to the sagittal plane and a distal bend that is acutely angled relative to the sagittal plane, and the proximal bend and the distal bend are both on the same side of the sagittal plane.

²⁶ ²³
29. (New) The nail of claim 26, wherein the nail is made from titanium, the nail has a generally cylindrical shape, and a diameter of the cross section is between about 4 and 7 millimeters.

²⁷ ²³
30. (New) The nail of claim 26, wherein the cross section of the central section has a

a substantially constant diameter.



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